

For nearly 50 years, the Bowl of Hygeia award program has been a vehicle to encourage pharmacists to excel beyond their standard job duties and pay back their communities through exceptional public service. Dr. Demler is a well deserving recipient of this award.

Currently, Dr. Demler is the Director of Pharmacy Services for the Buffalo Psychiatric Center. She additionally serves as the Program Director for the Post Doctoral Pharmacy Residency Program at the University of Buffalo School of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences.

In addition to her impressive career, Dr. Demler's leadership has been recognized by her peers as she was the first woman elected President of the Pharmacists Society of the State of New York in the organization's 125-year history.

Dr. Demler's dedication to the community has included participation as the Erie County Site Staging manager for the Specialized Medical Assistance Response Team (SMART), organizing the world class Taste of Buffalo as a member of the Board of Directors and Restaurant committee. In addition she has been able to use her professional skills in pharmacy to host her own TV segment on WNY Tonight.

Madam Speaker, in recognition of the her dedication to our community and improving the lives of Western New Yorkers, I ask this Honorable Body to join me in congratulating Dr. Tammie Lee Demler for being awarded the prestigious Bowl of Hygeia award.

#### INTRODUCING THE ESTABLISHING GRANTS FOR COLLEGE ACCESS AND COMPLETION PROGRAM

##### HON. JAY INSLEE

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, July 20, 2009*

Mr. INSLEE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to introduce the Establishing Grants for College Access and Completion Act of 2009, a bill to increase the number of low-income students from underserved populations and disadvantaged backgrounds who enter and complete college.

It is well established that students from low-income families are 30 percent less likely to have access to higher education, but the disparity in graduation rates are more pronounced: only 20 percent of the lowest-income students are projected to graduate with a bachelor's degree by 2012, compared to 68 percent of the highest income students.

This bill would authorize Federal funding for the Grants for College Access and Completion program, a competitive grant program to support innovative and effective approaches that are currently improving college-going and college-graduation rates for low-income, high-promise students. Eligible organizations would need to show a proven track record of success in increasing the number of students from low-income and disadvantaged populations who enter and remain in college, and have an independent scholarship program supported by non-Federal dollars. Any eligible organization, under this bill, would be able to enter into partnerships with other entities to

improve their ability to effectively reach low-income and disadvantaged students.

This bill was written to use taxpayers' money wisely. The Federal grants would be used to provide mentoring, academic support, and supportive services to prepare low-income students to attend institutions of higher education, with 15 percent of the funds coming from non-Federal sources. This bill does not provide any money for scholarships; rather, it will be required that the grantees have established and successful scholarship programs. Finally, the bill has an annual reporting requirement of grantees, so that the Secretary can keep close track of their performance.

For example, efforts are currently underway and proven to improve graduation rates of this student population. A Washington State-based foundation, the College Success Foundation, formerly the Washington Education Foundation, is leading the way, by encouraging low-income and disadvantaged students to pursue higher education, and providing them with support and mentoring services to ensure their continued success in college.

Almost 90 percent of today's fastest growing jobs require some postsecondary education. Students who do not attend and graduate from college are increasingly finding themselves shut out of well-paying jobs. Statistics show that an individual without a high school diploma will earn approximately \$1,100,000 less in their lifetime than an individual with a bachelor's degree. Finally, statistics show that the children of college graduates, and even their children's children, are more likely to go on to graduate from institutes of higher education. Should my bill become law, and help students attend and graduate from college, their expected lifetime earnings will more than pay for the little sums of money appropriated through this legislation.

I urge my colleagues to consider this important bill.

#### HONORING DR. ABE SILVERSTEIN

##### HON. CONNIE MACK

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, July 20, 2009*

Mr. MACK. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Dr. Abe Silverstein, an American engineer who played an important part in the United States space program.

Dr. Silverstein was born in 1908 in Terre Haute, Indiana, and earned a B.S. in mechanical engineering (1929) and an M.E. (1934) from the Rose Polytechnic Institute. In 1929, Dr. Silverstein was hired by the National Advisory Committee for Aeronautics (NACA) at the Langley research center to work on the design of the Altitude Wind Tunnel. While there, he also directed research which led to increased high-speed performance of most of the combat aircraft of World War II. His work contributed to development of present day supersonic aircrafts.

Dr. Silverstein helped at NASA headquarters to help with the space flights of Project Mercury and the Apollo program. He was also chair to the government commission The Silverstein Committee.

Dr. Silverstein received several awards for his work. In 1984, NASA named him an "Elder Statesman of Aviation." On August 14, 1997, Dr. Silverstein was the recipient of the Guggenheim Medal for significant contributions to the advancement of flight. He later retired to Ohio and spent his winters in Cape Coral.

I would like to recognize Dr. Silverstein for his contributions to this country and we are proud of all his accomplishments. His lifetime achievements are truly commendable.

#### CONFLICT RESOLUTION IN CYPRUS

##### HON. HENRY C. "HANK" JOHNSON, JR.

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, July 20, 2009*

Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia. Madam Speaker, I come to the floor today to urge the U.S. to join in the efforts to reach a peaceful solution to the dispute in Cyprus.

The United States, United Nations, United Kingdom, European Union are just a few countries and international organizations who have long been engaged in the efforts to bring about a negotiated compromise to the dispute in Cyprus. I feel it is time that such an agreement is reached. Moreover, I'm pleased that at the end of last year, the Greek Cypriot Leader, Demetris Christofias, and Turkish Cypriot Leader, Mehmet Ali Talat, began U.N.-sponsored peace talks to try to find a solution to the ongoing situation in Cyprus.

I believe this Administration should also take an active role to bring about a solution that would be beneficial for both Cypriot communities. This ongoing disagreement pits two NATO allies, Greece and Turkey, against each other, and therefore, we must quickly find a mutually agreed upon solution.

Assistant Secretary of State for European and Eurasian Affairs, Philip Gordon, testified that "resolution of the Cyprus problem will have a tremendous impact on the region by strengthening peace, justice, and prosperity on the island, advancing Turkey's European Union accession, improving NATO-EU cooperation and removing a source of friction between two NATO Allies, Greece and Turkey."

I agree with the Assistant Secretary Gordon's sentiments and hope the Administration takes the appropriate actions to ensure that an accord is achieved. Any agreement must lead Cyprus to an independent government where both Greek and Turkish Cypriot communities have equal political rights similar to the 1994 Annan Plan. The Annan Plan would have set up a confederation of two component states—the Greek Cypriot State and the Turkish Cypriot State. Both Cypriot communities would be joined together by a federal government mirrored after the Swiss federal model. The plan included a federal constitution, constitutions for each constituent state, and a string of constitutional and federal laws. It also provided for a Reconciliation Commission to bring the two Cypriot communities closer together and resolve outstanding disputes from the past.

Such a bi-zonal and bi-communal agreement is the best approach and I urge the Administration to actively participate in the peaceful re-unification process in Cyprus.